

Claims

1. A collecting tank for a heat exchange medium,
5 having a housing, in which a replaceable drier
and/or filter device can be accommodated, the
housing having an aperture that can be closed by a
removable plug and sealed by a sealing means,
characterized in that the plug is elastically
10 deformable.
2. The collecting tank as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that the plug is composed of
plastic.
- 15 3. The collecting tank as claimed in claim 2,
characterized in that the plug has a shielding
element against the heat exchange medium.
- 20 4. The collecting tank as claimed in claim 3,
characterized in that the shielding element takes
the form of a coating, in particular a metalized or
enamel coating.
- 25 5. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims
1 to 4, characterized in that the sealing means
comprises at least one sealing ring of an elastomer
material, such as rubber or Teflon.
- 30 6. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims
1 to 5, characterized in that the plug is
integrally formed with the sealing means, the
sealing means in particular being molded onto the
plug.
- 35 7. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims
1 to 6, characterized in that the plug can be held
in the aperture by a retainer ring.

8. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the aperture has a circular cross-section and the plug is basically of hollow cylindrical design, the hollow cylinder being open on the side facing the interior of the housing.
9. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the housing takes the form of a tube with one open end, the plug being received in the open tube end.
10. The collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the heat exchange medium is a refrigerant and the collecting tank is an integral part of a coolant circuit, in particular for a motor vehicle air conditioning system.
11. A heat exchanger, in particular a condenser, having tubes, fins and two head pieces, characterized in that the heat exchanger has a collecting tank as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.
12. A coolant circuit of an air conditioning system, in particular for a motor vehicle, having a compression element, a first heat exchanger, an expansion element, a second heat exchanger and a collecting tank, characterized in that the collecting tank is designed according to any one of claims 1 to 10.